

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPE:DLAMB:LW

APPROVED BY EUR - AAHARTMAN

EB - JGREENWALD

E - CFRANK (INFO)

S/S - MR. MOFFAT

D - RPOATS (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108749 TOSEC 110702

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS, FOR ROBINSON FROM HARTMAN AND GREENWALD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OECD, OCON, ECIN

SUBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON NORTH/SOUTH

REF: STATE 104719; OECD PARIS 12920

1. WE CONCUR IN OECD MISSION'S NEGATIVE ASSESSMENT OF  
VAN LENNEP'S VIEWS ON THE CONTENT OF A POSSIBLE OECD  
MINISTERIAL NORTH/SOUTH DECLARATION.

2. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT A DECLARATION SUCH AS  
VAN LENNEP IS CONSIDERING WOULD IMPLY AN ADMISSION OF  
GUILT FOR THE WAY THE WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM NOW OPERATES  
WHICH WOULD BE EXPLOITED SUBSEQUENTLY BY THE DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES. SUCH AN APPROACH IS ALSO AT ODDS WITH THE  
PRINCIPAL THRUST OF OUR NORTH/SOUTH POLICY WHICH IS BASED  
ON INTEGRATING THE LDC'S INTO THE EXISTING SYSTEM AND  
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ENGAGING THEM IN A DIALOGUE CONCERNED WITH SPECIFICS

RATHER THAN DOCTRINE. IN ADDITION, WE DOUBT WHETHER A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES WOULD HAVE ANY TACTICAL VALUE FOR THE BALANCE OF THE CIEC. RATHER THAN DEBATE PRINCIPLES IN CIEC (AND IF WE DO NOT INTEND TO TRY TO WIN ACCEPTANCE OF THEM, WHY INTRODUCE THEM?) WE NEED TO FOCUS OVER THE REMAINING MONTHS ON ISSUES ON WHICH WE HAVE SOME POSSIBILITY OF MAKING PROGRESS DURING THE REMAINDER OF 1976.

3. OUR MEMORANDUM THROUGH YOU TO THE SECRETARY LAID OUT A GENERAL STRATEGY FOR THE OECD MINISTERIAL THAT WE BELIEVE REMAINS VALID. THAT STRATEGY ENVISAGES THE POSSIBILITY OF A DECLARATION ON NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS BUT NOT AS A CENTERPIECE OF THE MINISTERIAL (WHICH VAN LENNEP APPARENTLY HAS IN MIND).

4. ON THE BASIS OF COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM OECD PARIS AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE ADDITIONAL POINTS MENTIONED ABOVE, CHUCK FRANK HAS AGREED TO PREPARE AN INTERNAL DEPARTMENT PAPER ON A POSSIBLE NORTH/SOUTH DECLARATION FOR DISCUSSION WITH INTERESTED BUREAUS. RESULTS OF THIS EXERCISE WILL HELP TO REFINE OUR VIEWS ON THE ADVISABILITY AND POSSIBLE CONTENT OF A DECLARATION.

5. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREMATURE FOR VAN LENNEP TO ORGANIZE IN MID-MAY THE DRAFTING EXERCISE HE DISCUSSED WITH CHUCK FRANK. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY MULTILATERAL DRAFTING EXERCISE, EVEN AN INFORMAL ONE, CAN BE USEFUL UNTIL AFTER WE HAVE A CLEARER VIEW OF THE RESULTS OF UNCTAD IV AND HAVE HAD MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR INFORMAL SOUNDINGS WITH A NUMBER OF KEY OECD COUNTRIES. IF YOU CONCUR, WE SUGGEST YOU TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE OECD LUNCH TOMORROW TO MAKE U.S. CONCERNS KNOWN TO VAN LENNEP AND TO TELL HIM THAT CONVENING OF DRAFTING GROUP SHOULD BE DEFERRED. SISCO

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